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DIRECTORATE OF
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Central Intelligence Bulletin

State Department, NAVY reviews completed

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[Arab States - Israel: The latest cease-fire between the Jordanian Government and the fedayeen seems to have collapsed, while efforts continue to obtain the release of the captured airline passengers.

Amman radio announced a cease-fire agreement between the government and the Palestine Liberation Organization central committee yesterday afternoon. In return for a pull-back of troops from around Amman, the fedayeen were to remove all armed men and members of their organizations from Amman streets; all military demonstrations were banned; and no citizen or his property was to be molested. Hours later, however, the central committee charged that Jordanian units had struck guerrilla positions without warning near Irbid, 45 miles north of Amman, killing 25 commandos and wounding 40. Announcing their withdrawal from the truce, the commandos asked members of a four-nation Arab mediating committee to visit Amman hospitals and see commandos who had been "mutilated" by government troops. The Fatah information office has charged the army with shelling several other fedayeen bases.

Meanwhile, International Red Cross representative Rochat met with the leaders of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the group responsible for the hijackings. The PFLP attempted to work out a separate deal for each country involved and each aircraft, but Rochat held out for the release of all hostages without regard to nationality in exchange for the release of fedayeen held in Germany, Switzerland, and the UK. The PFLP has apparently agreed to give Rochat its answer sometime today.



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The peace talks seem to be stalled. According to press reports coming out of Jerusalem, however, Israeli sources are saying that Israel may consider signing a new cease-fire agreement with Egypt in order to get the talks started again. Such an agreement would have detailed maps attached to it and be more binding than the previous one; some sources speculated that a new agreement might include a provision for the demilitarization of a 19-mile strip on either side of the Suez Canal.



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Cambodia: Government troops moving north toward Kompong Thom city have met only token resistance.

Advanced elements of a Cambodian Army task force reportedly are about 15 miles north of Skoun on Route 6. The operation is being spearheaded by six infantry battalions recently returned from retraining in South Vietnam. Five other battalions were moving westward from Kompong Cham city in order to provide route security behind the advance elements.

The government's advance has been slowed by destroyed bridges along the road, and by the many obstacles the enemy placed across it.

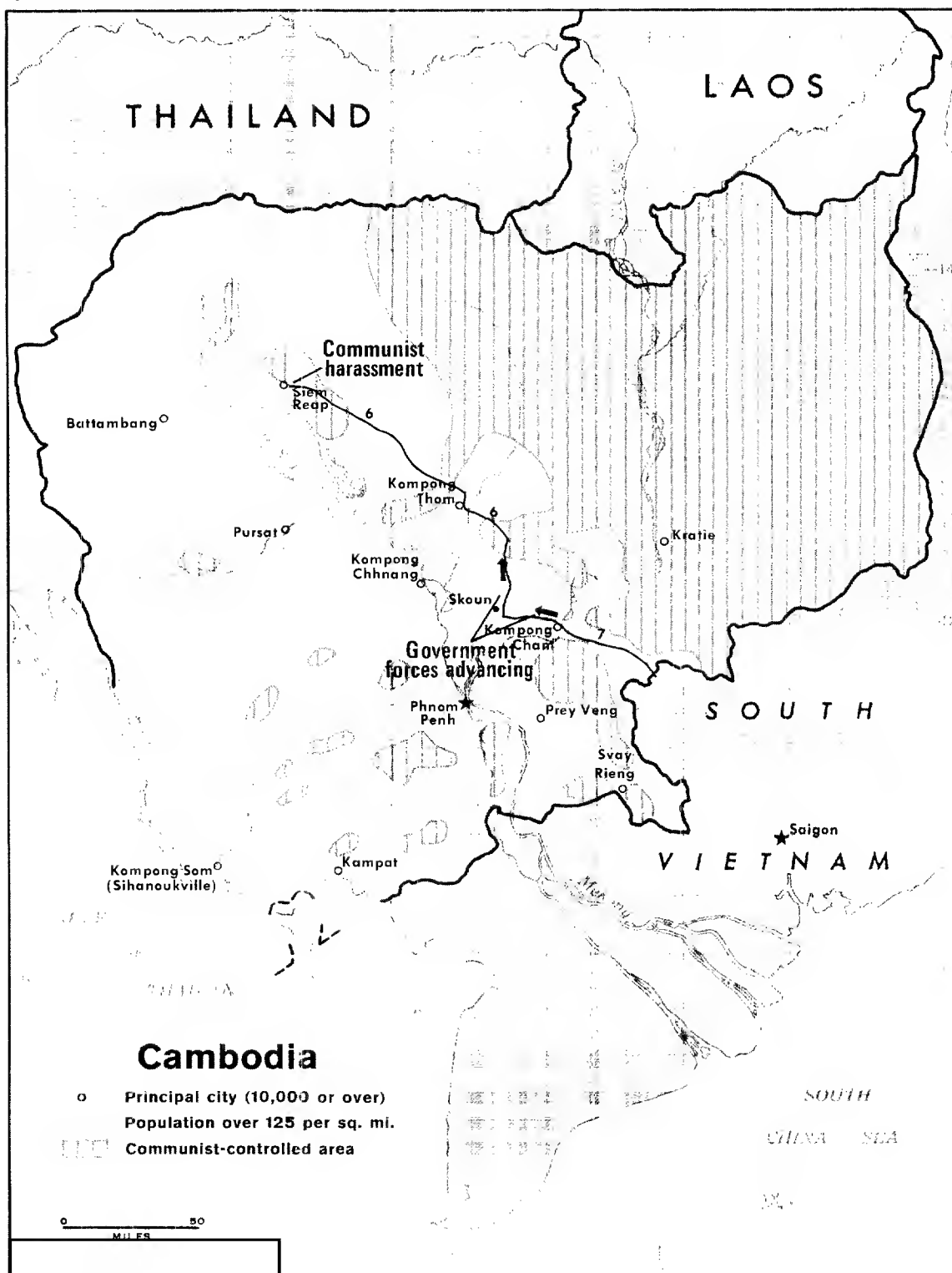
In the northwest, the Communists continued to harass government positions at Siem Reap city. Government troops clashed twice yesterday with Communist units just north and northwest of the city. For the past few weeks, the Cambodians have been expecting a major ground attack against Siem Reap, but so far the enemy has been content to harass it with intermittent rocket and mortar fire.
(Map on Reverse)

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Current Situation



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NOTES

NATO-Greece: The impasse over the report recommending Alliance support for the strengthening of Greek forces has apparently been broken. Danish Prime Minister Baunsgaard told US Ambassador Dudley yesterday that his government will make only an oral statement on the issue at the meeting of the Defense Planning Committee on 18 September, when the report will be reviewed. Presumably none of the NATO members will pose objections to its adoption. The persistent Scandinavian opposition to the Greek regime had delayed the report for five months and threatened to provoke a serious dispute within the Alliance. [REDACTED]

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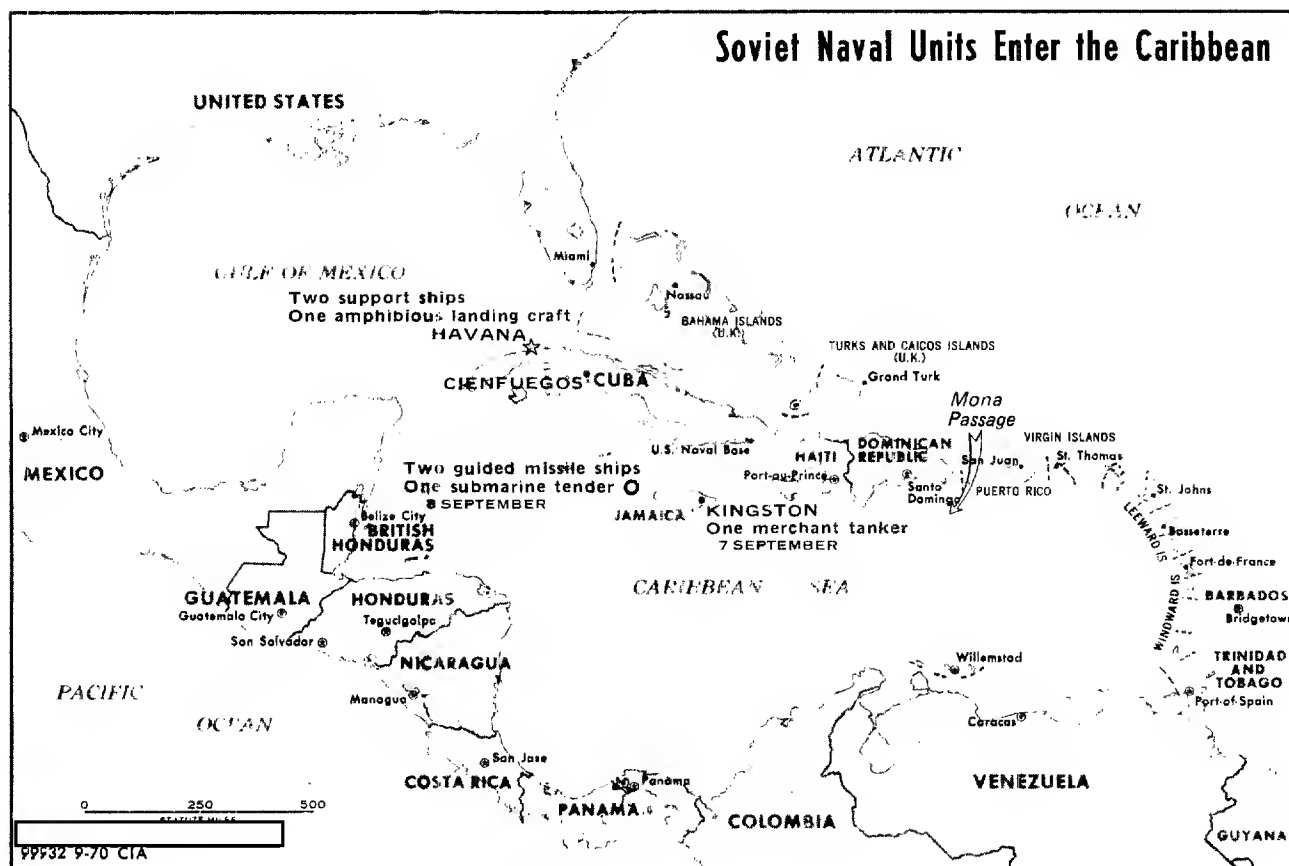
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USSR-Cuba: The four Soviet ships that entered the Caribbean over the weekend are expected to make a port call at Cienfuegos, Cuba, later this week. Three of the group, two guided missile ships and a submarine tender, were west of Jamaica on 8 September. The merchant tanker that accompanied them through the Mona Passage entered Kingston, Jamaica, on 7 September. Antisubmarine exercises by the Soviet ships and sonar contacts by US destroyers trailing the group indicate that at least one nuclear submarine is accompanying them. Two other Soviet support ships and an amphibious landing craft are probably in Havana now. Following the port calls, the Soviets probably will conduct additional antisubmarine operations in the Caribbean. [REDACTED]

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Colombia: The government has begun a vigorous counter guerrilla campaign in central Colombia following the ambush of an army convoy on 1 September by the pro-Cuban Army of National Liberation (ELN). Seven soldiers reportedly were killed and eight others wounded in what appears to have been the most serious attack in over a year. Another skirmish on 4 September resulted in the capture of several ELN guerrillas, including one of the most important leaders of the organization; about 35 peasants have also been detained. ELN policy in the past has been to avoid action with large groups of soldiers while attacking small patrols or outposts. It is too early to tell whether this represents a change in ELN tactics, but it is possible that the attack was designed to test the recently inaugurated Pastrana government's resolve in dealing with guerrillas. [REDACTED]

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